

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

February 2021

It's an exciting time to be a Kansas City Chiefs fan. On January 24th, we watched Andy Reid, Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs organization demolish the Buffalo Bills to hoist the Lamar Hunt trophy for the second consecutive year. Before last year, the Chiefs had not been in the Super Bowl since 1970, a drought of fifty years.

On February 7th, we will see if they can win back to back Lombardi trophies. Maybe this Chiefs team could become an NFL dynasty, contending for Super Bowl victories for years to come.

The 50 year old Super Bowl trophy from the Chiefs 1970 victory over the Minnesota Vikings is on display at Arrowhead Stadium. Do you think it will still be on display 100 years from now? 200 years from now?

How many trophies can you name from 1821? Someday, football and the NFL may be obsolete. The trophies may not survive the centuries except as a footnote in a future museum. It reminds me of the verse, *Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* (Matthew 6:20-21 ESV)

The baseball great Hank Aaron passed away on January 22nd this year. Aaron won a World Series championship with the 1957 Milwaukee Braves. He also won the 1957 National League MVP award. He was selected for the All-Star team more times than any other player (25). He was a gold glove winner three times. He holds the MLB record for RBIs and extra-base hits. He achieved numerous home run titles and other batting milestones. For a while he held the record for most career home runs after he broke Babe Ruth's record.

In 1982 he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2002.

Yet, when Hammerin' Hank stands before the judgement seat of God, none of that matters. He could lay all of his achievements, awards, medals and trophies out in exchange for heaven and it

wouldn't even get him one minute in paradise.

What matters is what he did with Jesus. It is encouraging that I found this among Hank Aaron quotes: *"I need to depend on Someone who is bigger, stronger and wiser than I am. I don't do it on my own. God is my strength. He gave me a good body and some talent and the freedom to develop it. He helps me when things go wrong. He forgives me when I fall on my face. He lights the way."*

I don't know Hank Aaron's specific Christian beliefs, but his quote gives me hope that he trusted in Christ to award him crowns in heaven, because batting crowns or Super Bowl trophies don't mean much before the Lord.

Does all this mean we don't need to excel at earthly endeavors? Absolutely not! Whatever we do on this earth, we should strive to be the best we can – for God's glory. *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.* (1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV)

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:17 ESV)

Through eternal eyes, the heartfelt gift of a "World's Greatest Dad/Mom" mug is better than any employee of the year award. No earthly recognition can ever surpass, upon entering heaven, hearing the voice of your Lord and Master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."

Keep it all in perspective, folks. This life matters, but what matters most is what you do with Jesus.

So be encouraged by the words of George Bennard: *On a hill far away/ stood an old rugged cross/ the emblem of suffering and shame; and I love that old cross/ where the dearest and best/ for a world of lost sinners was slain.*

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross. Where my trophies as last I'll lay down. I will cling to the old rugged cross. And exchange it someday for a crown.

Mike



Super Bowl Parties

Youth Group: Begins at 5 p.m. at the church until the game is over. Check with Mike for what to bring.

Church Super Bowl Party @ the Welborn's, 4 PM. Feel Free to bring snacks and/or games.



Making our Church Safe for All

Before Covid 19, a team of men began working on a security phase for the church. Progress slowed down a little due to restrictions, but they have been able to accomplish a few things.

1. Security cameras have been installed.
2. Security door at the Nursery entry.

With much hope, they plan to continue to make our sanctuary a safe place to gather.

Men's Breakfast: The men's breakfast will be Saturday, February 13th at 8:00 AM Wayne Flack is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: Please continue saving your pocket change for VFCC youth programs and School Supply Project. There is a bucket for your change anytime, not just the third Sunday.

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallscc.org. If you cannot access them this way, you may ask Pastor Mike for a cd copy.

On line sermon opportunity: For those sheltering at home, church service will be available to live stream on YouTube (and Facebook). Also available on YouTube, previous services.



Sermon Series, Scriptures:

Mercy for a Messy Church

Feb 7 Awesome Power in a Weak Package
2 Cor 4:7-12

Feb 14 Heaven
2 Cor 5:6-10

Feb 21 Ambassadors for Christ
2 Cor 5:16-21

Feb 28 Holiness
2 Cor 6:14-18

Feb	Greeters	Scripture reader	Communion Devotion
7	Farr	Farr 2 Cor 4:7-12	Wayne Flack
14	Spencer	Spencer 2 Cor 5:6-10	Wayne Flack
21	Mitchell	Mitchell 2 Cor 5:16-21	Wayne Flack
28	Farr	Farr 2 Cor 6:14-18	Wayne Flack

February communion devotion and prayer: Wayne Flack

Prayer Requests: Becky Arnold, Clay Beister, Emma Dockweiler, Cindy Parker, Rick Johnson, Rusty Rogers

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, Gary Flack, Dayton Flack

Church Offerings:

Jan 03 - \$ 1,099

Jan 10 - \$ 1,937

Jan 17 - \$ 892

Gyve totals not included in totals.

Give to VFCC online through our partnership with Gyve at: <https://gyve.io/give/valleyfallssc>

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 JODI WATKINS
- 6 Joe Thayer
- 7 Natalie Barrett
- 8 Aisha Mitchell
- 12 Jay & Carol Welborn (1965)
Cheyenne Cook
Wayne and Judy Flack (1970)
- 14 Charlie Brown
- 15 Kari Mitchell
Clinton Thomas
- 19 Wayne Flack
Janelle Thayer
- 20 Nancy Gatzemeyer
- 22 Dakota Boyce
- 26 Evie Gatzemeyer

(Names in CAPS in Mission Field)



- Crafty Crafters Monday at 1:30 PM
- Youth Group Sunday at 5 PM
- Bible Study Wednesday at 7 PM



Creative Arts Academy inspiring high school artists to create Jesus culture in the world
Ozark Christian College: Grades 9-12
June 13-18, 2021
Early Bird Registration: \$250 by Jan 11-Mar 14
Regular Rate: \$275 Mar 15-May 14
For more info or to register visit OCC.EDU/CAA

Valley Falls Christian Church

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Valley Falls, KS 66088

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Phone: 785-945-6757
Email: office@valleyfallsc.org
On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) – 9:00 AM

Worship – 10:00 AM

Youth Group (grades 7-12) – 5:00 PM **Midweek:** Bible Study-7:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
	1	3	4	6
	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6:15 PM – Worship prac 7:00 Bible Study		
7	8	10	11	13
4PM Super Bowl Party Welborn's 5 PM – Youth Group Super Bowl Party	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6:15 PM – Worship prac 7:00 Bible Study		8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
14	15	17	18	20
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6:15 PM – Worship prac 7:00 Bible Study		
21	22	24	25	27
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM – Sunflower Crafters	6:15 PM – Worship prac 7:00 Bible Study		
28				
5 PM Youth Group				